



It Ain't Easy Being Green

March 2008

WHY GO GREEN

Simply – you can't afford not to. Going green isn't just about saving the planet. By looking after our planet we are looking after ourselves. Ultimately you are saving the generations that follow in your footsteps. The possibility that the human race could be wiped out is a real possibility. Over population continues to cause issues with food and fresh water. By taking steps now we can look into sustainable resources that will provide the key to our future.

Don't Dump, Recycle

Want to get rid of a baby stroller, a basketball hoop or size 9 bowling shoes? Join the local bulletin board of the Freecycle Network (www.freecycle.org) and post what you want to give away – or something you are looking for. No money changes hands, and your unwanted stuff won't add to a landfill. Launched in 2003, the network has more than 4,000 freecycle.org giveaway sites and 3.8 million members.



Power Down Laconia!

Did you know that lighting typically accounts for 30% of a school's energy use?

The Green Team challenges you to help save \$ on heat and electricity. Here is how you can help:

- Shut off lights any time a room is empty for 5 minutes or more. This does not harm modern fluorescent lights.
- Use natural lighting when possible. Shutting off some fixtures will make a difference.
- Unplug chargers and transformers when appliances are not in use. If those black boxes are hot they are using energy.
- Shut off printers, tv's vcr, and dvd players using the switch on the device when not in use. 40% of their energy use comes when they are in a standby mode, waiting for a signal from a computer or remote control.
- Shut down all computers at the end of the day. There are 870 computers in the district.

Look closely for all of the above before leaving for April vacation. Shut blinds to keep heat in. Unplug the microwave and defrost that mini-fridge for the week.

